

---

HOUSE BILL 2310

---

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2007 Regular Session

By Representatives McCoy and Moeller

Read first time 02/20/2007. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to the care of individuals with traumatic brain  
2 injury; adding a new section to chapter 74.39 RCW; adding a new section  
3 to chapter 72.23 RCW; and creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Individuals who have been diagnosed with a  
6 traumatic brain injury face many unique challenges. Some individuals  
7 with traumatic brain injury have also been diagnosed with a mental  
8 disorder that requires active psychiatric treatment at an inpatient  
9 hospital level of care. Others who do not need active psychiatric  
10 inpatient care have been placed in state institutions for lack of an  
11 alternative care option. Such unnecessary placement diminishes the  
12 lives of these individuals and prevents their ability to control the  
13 direction of their lives.

14 Since 2001 the department of social and health services has  
15 maintained an expanded community services program that has provided  
16 community residential mental health and other services for long-term  
17 state hospital residents who can be better cared for in the community.  
18 The legislature finds that many individuals who have been diagnosed  
19 with traumatic brain injury and do not have an accompanying mental

1 disorder that requires active psychiatric treatment at an inpatient  
2 hospital level of care can be better cared for in these community  
3 settings.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.39 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The current expanded community services program is established  
7 as a permanent program in the department of social and health services  
8 aging and disability services administration.

9 (2) The department shall determine the appropriate individuals who  
10 may participate in the expanded community services program. To the  
11 extent of available funding, the individuals who shall be served by the  
12 program include those that have been diagnosed with traumatic brain  
13 injury and do not have an accompanying mental disorder that requires  
14 active psychiatric treatment at an inpatient hospital level of care.

15 (3) The program shall provide enhanced community residential  
16 support services and personal care for people whose treatment needs  
17 constitute substantial barriers to community placement, and who no  
18 longer require active psychiatric treatment in an inpatient hospital  
19 setting.

20 (4) For the purposes of this section, "expanded community services  
21 program" has the same meaning as in RCW 70.97.010.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 72.23 RCW  
23 to read as follows:

24 As of January 1, 2008, any admission of new patients who are  
25 individuals who have been diagnosed with traumatic brain injury and do  
26 not have an accompanying mental disorder that requires active  
27 psychiatric treatment at an inpatient hospital level of care to a state  
28 hospital shall be limited to a length of time necessary to stabilize  
29 the individual and place him or her in an appropriate community  
30 setting.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
32 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
33 June 30, 2007, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and

1 void.

--- END ---